

AZ-02: In Review

Dear Southern Arizonans,

Though 2020 was not what we had in mind when we rang it in on New Year's Eve last year, I wanted to reach out and convey my personal gratitude for your continued support and resilience through it all.

In the 116th Congress, I was able to remain true to my commitment of being an accessible representative, and thanks to the spirit of AZ-02, came to work time and time again with grit and determination to serve and deliver results for **you**.

Though this term has come to an end, I can't wait to keep the momentum going next term.

Please continue reading to see just a glimpse into all that we accomplished — together! — these last two years.

Happy holidays, and stay healthy,

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Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick









Constituent Services

One of the main pillars of a successful congressional office is a strong constituent services program; it is our job to help constituents navigate federal agencies and cut through the red tape that often stands in the way of receiving their earned benefits.

My team has closed over 2,200 cases to assist Southern Arizonans with federal government agencies. We've helped deliver over \$2,400,000 saved or obtained for our constituents. We didn't stop working during the pandemic, either — we have been holding daily virtual office hours via Zoom.





BY THE NUMBERS:

- \$2.4 million saved, returned or obtained for constituents
- 2020 alone: 1,559 cases closed for constituents
- 116th Congress: 2,267 casework cases closed and resolved

Legislation

From Douglas to Tucson, I have traveled all over the district to tackle community-focused priorities. With Southern Arizonans in mind, I return to Capitol Hill — whether it be in person, or virtually — prepared to fight for our community and deliver results for the constituents I proudly represent. Here's a glimpse into some of our legislative accomplishments from the 116th Congress.

Notable Introductions

- H.R. 7640: Local Journalism Sustainability Act creates a series of 3 tax credits

 subscription, journalist compensation, advertising all aimed at sustaining the local journalism industry.
- <u>H.R. 5559: January 8th National Memorial Act</u> makes the January 8th Memorial in Tucson a National Memorial.
- H.R. 668: American Dream Employment Act amends the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 to permit the compensation of congressional employees who have been issued employment authorization documents under the DHS's DACA Program.

Notable Cosponsorships

...click on a bill to learn more!

H.R.1384: Medicare for All Act of 2019

H.R.8: Background Checks Act of 2019 H.R.6: American Dream and Promise Act of 2019

H.R.1694: Native American Voting Rights Act of 2019 H.R. 2639: Strength in Diversity Act

H.R. 8015: Delivering for America Act

H.R. 7092: The Great American Outdoors Act

H.R.7120: George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020



BY THE NUMBERS:

- 8 bills introduced
- 410 pieces of co-sponsored legislation
- 332 letters sent with colleagues
- 35 letters led & sent



Prior to being sworn in, I fiercely petitioned the new House leadership to consider appointing me to the House Appropriations Committee, one of the most powerful and influential committees in Congress. Arizona's representation on this committee has been long overdue. Being the only Arizona member on this committee, I understand the responsibility to fight for and deliver federal resources, not just for Southern Arizona, but for our entire state.

My office submitted countless funding and language requests aimed at protecting projects essential to our district and state, including projects related to Arizona's water resources, agriculture, defense industries, and infrastructure. Keep reading to see all we accomplished through the appropriations process this year.





NDAA 2021 Victories

The William M. (Mac) Thornberry

National Defense Authorization Act
for FY 2021 authorizes \$732 billion in
discretionary spending for our national
defense for FY 2021, including
approximately \$69 billion for Overseas
Contingency Operations (OCO). Rep.
Kirkpatrick's two Arizona centric
amendments were successfully
included in the final passage of the bill.



Amendment to ensure greater transparency from the USAF with the A-10 re-winging effort. This amendment adds language requiring greater transparency from the Air Force with the A-10 aircraft re-winging effort so that Congress can ensure that the service will commit to maintaining the entire fleet.

Amendment in support of the Sentinel Landscape partnership. The Sentinel Landscape partnership at Fort Huachuca is a popular local collaboration that would protect wildlife habitat while also ensuring military readiness. My amendment would help facilitate the Sentinel Landscape partnership by making it easier for the Department of Defense to partner with other federal agencies.



"Our military installations in Southern Arizona are a critical part of our state's economy and our national security. I am proud that both of my amendments made their way through the House and Senate. My amendments are focused on transparency and collaboration, and I look forward to continuing that work and delivering more victories to our home state!"

-Rep. Kirkpatrick

FY 2021 Omnibus Victories

Not an exhaustive list!

Drought Contingency Plan

I secured report language to clearly direct the Bureau of Reclamation to focus on the irrigation projects in central Arizona that are necessary to fulfill Arizona's commitment to the Drought Contingency Plan. These projects will occur primarily in Pinal County, and will allow farmers to access groundwater for their irrigation needs, instead of the Colorado River water they ceded when Arizona agreed to the DCP.



<u>Homeland Security - Tourist Expansion</u>

Alongside my Arizona delegation colleagues, I secured report language to establish a pilot program to implement HR 5405, the Southwest Tourism Expansion Act, introduced by Congressman Greg Stanton. This language would extend the zone of travel for current Border Crossing Card holders to the entire state of Arizona, as a pilot program. A recent study by the University of Arizona estimated that this would add more than \$180 million in spending in Arizona by Mexican citizens who are BCC holders.



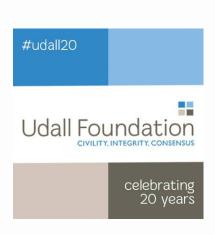
NSF Tribal Colleges & Universities Program

I strongly advocated for funding for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program through the National Science Foundation (NSF). I helped secure \$16.5 million for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program, a \$1.5 million increase from FY20. This grant program serves Tribal Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native-serving institutions, and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions. Funds from the program can be used for implementing high quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, research, and outreach. Arizona is home to two Tribal Colleges.



Financial Services & General Government

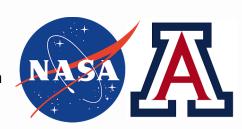
This legislation includes \$5 million for the Udall Foundation, including the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. The Udall Foundation awards scholarships and grants, and supports programs like the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona. The Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution assists parties in attempting to resolve conflicts regarding the environment, natural resources, and public lands. The Udall Foundation is a staple of Southern Arizona, and this funding will help ensure it continues to be so.



FY 2021 Omnibus Victories (cont'd)

NASA

NASA has been allocated \$90 million for **Near Earth Object Observation missions and data analysis, which includes a project based out of the University of Arizona** called the Near Earth Object Surveillance Mission (NEOSM). The goal of this mission is to identify potentially hazardous near earth objects to minimize the risk of potential impacts in the future. Funding for this project further strengthens UArizona's standing as one of the nation's leading research institutions and deepens its already storied relationship with NASA.



Department of Defense

Congressional Directed Peer Review Cancer Research Program

At my request, cancers found in children, adolescents, and young adults are now eligible under larger peer-reviewed cancer research programs (PCRP) with several new cancer names in the Defense Health Program. 86% of the active military fall within what the NIH defines as adolescents and young adults ages 15-39 with the average age being 25. The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are now directed to conduct research in the following areas that were not funded in the 2020 budget.



Support for the CH-47 Chinook Helicopter

I recognize the Army's near-term and long-term modernization needs, which is why I pushed for additional aircraft procurement funding for the first 5 F Block II aircraft in FY21, and advanced procurement to enable the second lot of 5 F Block II aircraft in FY22. The CH-47F Chinook is the Army's only heavy-lift helicopter and is expected to be in service into the 2060s. It serves at home (for example, H-47 aircraft are critical to fighting and controlling devastating fires across the country) and abroad to save lives and protect heroes. In Arizona, the CH-47 program has 2 key suppliers that support about 700 jobs with an estimated annual economic impact of \$40 million.



Other Funding Victories

- \$3.22 billion for the National Park Service, \$55 million above FY20 and \$449M above President Trump's request
- \$22 million for the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, which coordinates and implements energy planning, education, management and competitive grant programs to assist Tribes with clean energy development
- \$6.5 billion for the Indian Health Service
- \$280 million for the Office of Solar Energy Technologies

Outreach

Undoubtedly, my favorite part of serving AZ-02 is interacting with my constituents. Before the pandemic reached the U.S., my office hosted at least one public event each month, like "Congress on Your Corner" or town hall forums, where I met face-to-face with Southern Arizonans to discuss the issues that are most important to them. I launched new events like "Ann in Action," where I shadowed or toured small businesses and facilities to gain greater insight into our local economy and workforce needs. Overall, I have held over 400 meetings with constituent groups and organizations, monthly "Congress on Your Corner" events, and quarterly town halls, all open to the public and press. I hope we are able to get back to these events in person in 2021!

- **113,000** letters received
- 52,700 letters sent in response...and more to come!





I'm on social media — follow me!

f @RepKirkpatrick

🦅 @RepKirkpatrick

@RepAnnKirkpatrick

Mail Program in 2020: Hearing about what matters to you!

Kino Border Initiative - #SaveAsylum Events

My office attended a variety of Save Asylum events at our Southern Border to **stand in solidarity with migrants** seeking asylum in our country. I am committed to working with the incoming administration to push for long overdue policy changes that will usher in humanity & compassion at our border.



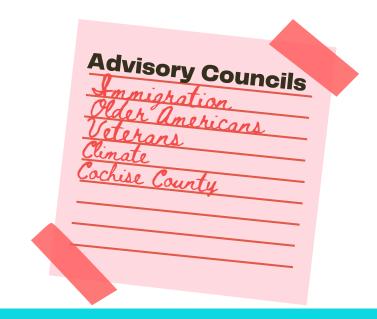
COVID-19 Task Force



As soon as the pandemic broke out, my office organized an impressive COVID-19 Task Force made up of health experts, business leaders, and educators from all over the district. The task force has had **weekly conference calls** to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 throughout Southern Arizona and has proved extremely useful to all stakeholders in leading during this global crisis.

AZ-02 Advisory Groups

Our advisory groups serve as **conduits for local and federal updates**, **policies**, **and programs** impacting these populations. However, the councils provide me with much more than I could provide for them; for me to accurately represent our district, it is critical we build these community coalitions of experienced perspectives and voices so that I know what to fight for in Washington.



COVID-19 Response & Relief

The pandemic took a toll on life as usual this year. Arizonans struggled with cancelled plans, distance learning, remote working, paying the bills, loved ones getting sick, and more. In Congress, I made sure to fight for the resources you and your family needed to get through this crisis. With the incoming administration, I know that more help is on the way.

Here's a brief recap of the COVID actions Congress took #ForThePeople:

Families First Coronavirus Response Act

- Provided key nutrition funding for Americans suffering from food insecurity.
- Mandated COVID-19-related family medical and paid sick leave for employees.
- Made available tax credits to reimburse employers for both sick leave and family medical leave.
- Established free COVID testing.
- Provided extended unemployment benefits and additional funding to states.

CARES Act

- Included direct stimulus checks of \$1,200 or \$2,400 for single and married people, respectively.
- Expanded unemployment insurance.
- Established the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) for small businesses to receive forgivable government loans during the shutdown.
- Provided major assistance for State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act

- Funded measures such as vaccine development & public health programs.
- Provided \$8.3 billion in emergency funding for federal agencies to respond to the coronavirus outbreak.

Omnibus Spending & COVID Relief Bill

- Direct payments, with \$600 going to individual adults.
- Extension of federal jobless benefits of up to \$300 per week for 11 weeks, providing a lifeline for hard-hit workers until 3/14/21.
- Renewal of the Paycheck Protection Program.
- Vaccine distribution funding, food security, rental assistance, & more.

In Closing

While the year has doled out a series of challenges to us all, I am excited to return to the 117th Congress and get to work for the people I proudly represent.

I know that my colleagues and I will work tirelessly to support working families and small businesses, safeguard and expand health care, protect Social Security and Medicare, and bring our country together again. I couldn't have done this without your support. I'm deeply honored that the people of Southern Arizona trust me to take our values to Washington, D.C. again, and I invite you to visit my office whenever it becomes safe to do so.

As always, my office is here for you as a resource. If you need help navigating a federal agency, or have a message to share about upcoming legislation, please don't hesitate to get in contact with me! You can email me by clicking here, or you can leave a voicemail at one of the offices (below). And don't forget to subscribe to my weekly e-newsletter!







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